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Identical letters dated 7 May 2013 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Libya to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

It is my honour, in my capacity as the chairman of the Group of Arab States for the month of May 2013, to convey to you the Group's position regarding the recent Israeli attacks against the Syrian Arab Republic and Israeli violation of Lebanese sovereignty.

The Group of Arab States in New York has followed with deep concern the rocket attacks carried out by Israel in the early morning hours of 5 May 2013 against sites in the Syrian Arab Republic. The Group condemns this aggression and warns of the grave consequences that might arise therefrom. It calls on the international community to act immediately in order to prevent its recurrence. The Group of Arab States affirms this aggression constitutes a grave violation of the sovereignty of an Arab State that will further complicate the situation in Syria and seriously threaten regional security and stability.

The Group of Arab States also affirms that it rejects the exploitation of the current situation in Syria as a pretext to attack Syria or undermine its sovereignty. It further affirms that the Israeli attacks are a true test of the will of the international community, led by the United Nations, and calls on the Security Council to shoulder its responsibility to halt Israel's repeated aggressions, which blatantly violate international law, and maintain international peace and security.

The Group of Arab States in New York also condemns in the strongest terms Israel's ongoing violation of Lebanese airspace and sovereignty and the relevant international resolutions, foremost of which is Security Council 1701 (2006). It calls on the Security Council to condemn these violations in the strongest terms and compel Israel to cease violating Lebanon sovereignty by land, air and sea and to fulfil all its obligations under resolution 1701 (2006).

I should be grateful if this letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ibrahim O. A. **Dabbashi**
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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